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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
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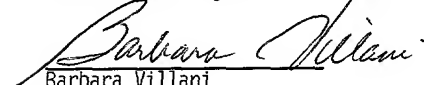
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Applicant(s): T. HATTORI et al

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Serial No. : Based on
PCT/JP01/02240

Filed : Herewith


Barbara Villani

For : OPTICAL-SIGNAL
AUTOCORRELATION-BIT-
ERROR DETECTION
APPARATUS AND METHOD.

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper, to Account No. 06-1378.

Art Unit :
Examiner :

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks

S I R :

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1: Please insert the following as the first sentence:

--This application is a U.S. National Phase Application under 35 USC 371 of International Application PCT/JP01/02240 (not published in English) filed March 21, 2001.--

A marked-up copy of page 1 is attached hereto.

Respectfully submitted,



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D E S C R I P T I O N

OPTICAL-SIGNAL AUTOCORRELATION-BIT-ERROR DETECTION
APPARATUS AND METHOD USING OPTICAL BRANCH SYSTEM

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Technical Field

The present invention generally relates to an optical-signal autocorrelation-bit-error detection apparatus to be applied to a quality evaluation technique for a high-quality optical transmission line using an optical fiber, particularly to an optical-signal autocorrelation-bit-error detection apparatus and method using an optical branch system for detecting autocorrelation bit errors of optical signals to be measured by the optical branch system.

Background Art

Because the demands on communications have recently increased, extension of a broadband transmission line is an urgent necessity.

As a part of the above extension, a high-quality optical transmission line for a DWDM signal of, for example, 10 Gbit/s (40 Gbit/s in future) to be the mainstream hereafter is used for long-distance-land and submarine-communication lines instead of a conventional optical transmission line for a WDM signal of, for example, 2.5 Gbit/s.

In general, a bit error rate (BER) is used as a measuring system for evaluating a digital

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TRANSLATION

I, Kenji Kobayashi, residing at 2-46-10 Goko-Nishi, Matsudo-shi, Chiba-ken, Japan, state:

that I know well both the Japanese and English languages;

that I translated, from Japanese into English, the description, claims, abstract and drawings of International Application No. PCT/JP01/02240, filed March 21, 2001;

that the sheet next following this sheet is a copy of the Request of the said application as published as International Publication and is attached hereto in lieu of an English translation of the Request in the said application; and

that the attached English translation is a true and accurate translation to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Dated: October 24, 2001


Kenji Kobayashi

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